



Security Council

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LETTER DATED 21 SEPTEMBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
OF GREECE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

With reference to the paragraphs on the situation of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia contained in your report dated 17 September 1994 submitted pursuant to resolution 908 (1994) of 31 March 1994 (S/1994/1067), I would like to point out the following:

Following increasing signs of escalation in the intransigence of the Government of Skopje, the Government of Greece was compelled to decide, on 16 February 1994, to interrupt the transportation of merchandise to and from Skopje through the port of Thessaloniki, with the exception of necessary goods for humanitarian purposes.

It is to be noted that that decision has had an adverse and painful effect on the Greek economy itself, at a time when it is already suffering from the continuation of economic sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

In the light of the above, the term "economic blockade imposed by Greece" (paras. 24 and 50), is not, in my view, appropriate, since it does not reflect the fact that the decision of the Government of Greece was taken only as a countermeasure in response to a long series of provocations, all of which have been duly and timely brought to your attention.

Greece sincerely hopes that, once the requirements of the electoral calendar of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia have been met, as you noted in your letter dated 5 August 1994 to the President of the Security Council (S/1994/978), outstanding problems will be solved not only to the mutual benefit of the two countries, but also in the interest of peace and stability in the sensitive area of the Balkans.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Christos ZACHARAKIS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative